

# Justin Thomas

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Athens, TN 37303  
423-368-2975

## EDUCATION:

<i>Berea College</i> , Berea, KY	May 2010
Bachelor of Arts, Child and Family Studies	GPA 3.22
Family Studies Concentration	
<i>University of Tennessee</i> , Knoxville, TN	May 2016
Master of Science	GPA 3.8
Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication	
Agricultural Leadership Concentration	
<i>Regent University</i> , Virginia Beach, VA	In Progress
Master of Theological Studies	4.0 (36 of 48 hours as of Dec. 2020)
Church History Concentration	

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Sept. 2015-Current

### **Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences and County Director (Feb. 2019-current)**

*UT/TSU Extension Bradley County*, Cleveland, TN

- Provide supervision to 10 employees across three funding streams (7 full-time, 3 part-time through UT, TSU and Bradley County).
  - Four (4) Extension Agents, three (3) program assistants, one (1) administrative assistant, one (1) facilities janitor/farmer's market manager, one (1) cannery manager.
- Work extensively with county government for funding and support.
  - Annual County budget grossing approximately \$354,000
- Provide facilities management to a 10,000 sq. ft. office facility and 4 acre property that includes farmer's market, show barn arena, and public use cannery.
- Implement research based programs in Family and Consumer Sciences as determined by county needs assessment.
  - Primary focus over five years has been financial education/literacy and community health programs.
  - Serve as Lead Agent for TNCEP program.
- Work with community organizations and agencies to facilitate collaboration and synergy with adult education in the county.
- Provide support, education, and guidance to county FCE programs as needed.
- Attend and assist with county 4-H contests and programs, as well as, deliver in-school 4-H clubs as needed.

January 2012-2015

**Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agent & Interim County Director (CD 2015 only)**

*UT Extension Roane County, Kingston, TN*

- Implement research based programs in Family and Consumer Sciences as determined by county needs assessment.
  - Primary programs were related to consumer economics, community health and human development.
  - Served as Lead Agent for TNCEP programming delivered by primarily by program assistant.
- Administrative duties related to county budget, personnel, facilities management, community relations, etc.
- Oversight of building project for a renovation and addition of new Extension facility.
  - Renovation of existing 800 sqft building
  - Addition of approximately 1200 sqft—adding 3 office spaces, conference room, kitchen and updated parking lot.
- Partnered with various community organizations, county government departments and civic groups to deliver programming efforts.
- Provided guidance and support to county FCE program.

June 2012-Current

**Connection Pastor**

*Hillcrest Church, Etowah, TN*

- Oversee Connection Team (greeters, hospitality, parking, etc.)
- Oversee Small Groups Ministry
  - Leader training, recruitment, management
- Oversee data systems in coordination with church administrator
  - Planning Center Online. Church Metrics, Volunteer Pipeline/Screening
- Teaching and preaching duties in various capacities.
- Serve as pastoral elder.
- Provide assistance to any and all staff members as needed and directed by senior pastor in various areas (technology, curriculum, music, IT, etc.)

June 2010-Dec 2011

**4-H Youth Development and Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agent**

*Menifee County Cooperative Extension Service, Frenchburg, KY*

- Plan, organize, and implement youth and family programming
  - 60% 4-H 40% FCS
- Develop and utilize advisory councils for county programming needs
- Provide oversight to county EFNEP program.
  - Supervisory duties for one (1) EFNEP program assistant.
- Assisted and resourced Extension Homemakers Association (FCE)
- Volunteer recruitment, development, and supervision
  - Recruited, developed and revitalized 4-H Shooting Sports program.
- Collaborate with community organizations and businesses for programming
  - Partnered heavily with county schools for both 4-H and FCS programs.

- Office team raised \$30,000 for 4-H camp scholarships
- As a two agent team, we increased camp attendance from 18 (2010) to 59 (2011)

January 2010-May 2010

**4-H Program Assistant (Intern Jan. 2010, PA Feb-May)**

*Madison County Cooperative Extension Service, Richmond, KY*

- Organize materials for programs done by 4-H Agents
  - Select, sort, and prepare STEM energy kits for 4-H in-school club meetings.
- Copy, print, and laminate any supplementary programming materials
- Preparing mailings, assisting with newsletters, leading educational activities in a variety of settings
  - 10,000 4-H newsletters
  - 15,000 ANR newsletters
  - 2,500 Horticulture newsletters
  - 3,000 Extension Homemaker newsletters
- Assisting in the preparation for and evaluation of ANR, FCS and 4-H programs.
  - Participated in planning and implementation of “Fiscal Court Appreciation Lunch”
  - Participated in planning and setup of Extension Homemaker Annual Banquet
  - Assisted with setup and coordination of Cattleman’s Association meeting.
  - Served as 4-H homeschool quilt club co-leader.

**PUBLICATIONS**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Authors</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Engagement in Extension Professional Associations: Tennessee Extension Professionals' Attitudes and Perceptions</i> <a href="https://www.joe.org/joe/2018april/a4.php">https://www.joe.org/joe/2018april/a4.php</a>	<b>J. Thomas</b> , C. Stripling, C. Stephens, & L. Stephenson	April 2018
<i>Tennessee Extension Performance Appraisal System for Extension Agents and County Directors and Area Extension Specialists.</i> <a href="https://extension.tennessee.edu/eesd/Documents/HR/Appraisal/Appraisal_Revision_White_Paper_2016.pdf">https://extension.tennessee.edu/eesd/Documents/HR/Appraisal/Appraisal_Revision_White_Paper_2016.pdf</a>	Donaldson, J.L., Isbell, H., Broyles, T., Dugger, T., Duncan, B., Hagan, T., Heiskell, C., Henley, M.B., Koon, M., Lighari, L., Manning, D., Miller, T., Rodgers, G., Slade, I., <b>Thomas, J.</b> , Toman, J., Tuggle, A., and Turner, G.	June 2016
<i>Sugar Free with Justin T.: Diabetes Education Through Community Partnerships</i> <a href="http://www.joe.org/joe/2014december/iw6.php">http://www.joe.org/joe/2014december/iw6.php</a>	<b>J. Thomas</b> and J. Donaldson	December 2014

**PRESENTATIONS**

<i>Title</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>
Farm Stress Exhibit	NACAA AM-PIC Chattanooga, TN	2018
Blue Ribbons and Boots Podcast: Live	TEAFCS State Conference	2018

Raving Fans: Marketing Basics for Extension	UTIA New Employee Orientation	2018
TEAFCS Overview and Recruitment	UTIA New Employee Orientation	2017
Financial Education and Literacy Basics	UTIA New Employee Orientation	2016
Podcasting 101	FCS Professional Development Conference	2016
Pathweighs to Health-Moderator	TEAFCS State Conference	2014
Workplace Wellness: Partnering with Worksites for Effective Wellness Initiatives	Tennessee Extension Conference	2014
Sugar Free with Justin T.	TAFCE State Conference	2014
Sugar Free with Justin T.	Eastern Region Agents Summit	2013

### **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

<i>Committee/Organization</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Date</i>
Bradley County Health Council	Chairmen	2018-current
Kiwanis Club of Cleveland	Member	2019-current
Southeast TN Regional Health Council	Member	2018-current
State Extension Advisory Council	Ex-Officio Member	2018-2020
TEAFCS/NEAFCS	Member	2012-current
TEAFCS	Past-President	2018
THDA Statewide Homebuyer Education Board	Member	2017-2018
UTIA Advisory Council	Member	2018-2019
UTIA Advisory Council	Chairmen	2017-2018
UTIA Advisory Council	Secretary	2016-2017
TEAFCS	President	2017
Healthier Tennessee Communities Initiative-Bradley County	Co-chair	2016-2019
Bradley County Interagency Council	Member	2016
Bradley County Health Council	Member	2016-current
TEAFCS	President-Elect	2016
FCS Consumer Economics Workgroup	Member	2014-2016
MidEast Community Action Agency Board	Member	2014-2015
Habitat for Humanity Board-Roane County	Member	2014
School Health Advisory Council	Member	2012-2015
Head Start Policy Council	Chairmen	2014-2015
Head Start Policy Council	Member	2013-2014
TEAFCS	Eastern Region Director	2015-2016
TEAFCS	Eastern Region Director-Elect	2013-2014
Roane County Schools CTE Advisory Council	Member	2012-2013
Roane County Health Council	Member	2012-2014

## **COMMITTEES**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
TEAFCS 2022 Conference Planning Committee (Treasurer)	2019-current
Assistant Dean for Family and Consumer Sciences Search Committee	2020
FCS Exhibit @ NACAA Committee (Co-chair)	2018
Professional Development for Agents Workgroup (ANR)	2017-2018
TEAFCS 2018 Conference Planning Committee (Sponsorship)	2017-2018
Joint Board Association	2016-2018
Galaxy Joint Association Meeting Co-chair	2016-2017
FCS Educational Tour—Western NC	2014-2015
Consumer Economics Leadership Team	2015-2017
Performance Appraisal Review Committee	2014-2016
TEAFCS 2014 Conference Planning Committee (Program)	2013-2014
Pathweigs to Health Workgroup	2012-2013

## **AWARDS/HONORS**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Date</i>
NEAFCS Southern Region Extension Housing Outreach Award	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2020
TEAFCS Extension Housing Outreach Award	1 <sup>st</sup>	2020
TEAFCS Community Partnership Award (Team)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2020
TEAFCS Extension Housing Outreach Award	1 <sup>st</sup>	2018
TEAFCS Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award	1 <sup>st</sup>	2018
TEAFCS Communications Radio/Podcast	1 <sup>st</sup>	2018
TEAFCS Social Media Award (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2018
THDA Total UT Extension Production Award Homebuyer Education	Top Performing	2018
THDA Urban Loan Production Award	Top 5	2017
TEA4-HW Communications Award (Radio/Podcast) (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
TEAFCS Communications Award (TV/Video) (Team)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2017
TEAFCS Communications (Radio/Podcast) (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
TEAFCS Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
TEAFCS Extension Housing Outreach Award (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
TEAFCS Social Networking Award (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
NEAFCS Southern Region Communications Award (Radio/Podcast) (Team)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
NEAFCS National Communications Award (Radio/Podcast)	1 <sup>st</sup>	2017
UTIA Outstanding New Extension Worker Award	1 <sup>st</sup>	2016
THDA Urban Loan Production Award	Top 5	2016
TEAFCS Dean Don Felker Financial Management Award	1 <sup>st</sup>	2014
TEAFCS Community Partnerships Award	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2014
TEAFCS New Professional Award	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2013

## **CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSE**

Exhorter's License-Church of God, Cleveland. (2013)

Homeownership Education Certification-Neighborworks America (2018)

## **REFERENCES**

Dr. Laura Stephenson

Associate Dean and Director

University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

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Retired Regional Program Leader

University of Tennessee Extension

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Ms. Peggy Powell

Retired Extension Agent/Mentor

University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

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Email: [peggy.powell1@uky.edu](mailto:peggy.powell1@uky.edu)

Dr. Christopher Stripling

Associate Professor & Interim Department Head

University of Tennessee

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